

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend the claims as follows. This listing of the claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1-11 (canceled).

12. (Previously presented) A method for operating a defroster heater that defrosts an evaporator of a refrigeration device, comprising:

recording a voltage amplitude of a supply voltage for the defroster heater;
generating a pulsed supply current for said defroster heater, a pulse-duty ratio of the pulsed supply current based upon said recorded voltage amplitude; and
supplying said defroster heater with said pulsed supply current, for a fixed heating interval.

13. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12, further comprising generating said pulse-duty ratio as a decreasing step function of said recorded voltage amplitude.

14. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 13, further comprising forming at least two discrete values for said step function in a predetermined permissible range of fluctuation of said voltage amplitude.

15. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, further comprising dividing a value range of said voltage amplitude into a plurality of intervals, for each interval of the plurality of intervals ~~said interval~~ assigning a fixed pulse-duty ratio and providing a ratio of upper to lower limit of said each interval of between 1.1 and 1.2.

16. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, further comprising assigning a pulse-duty ratio of 1 to a voltage amplitude ~~amplitudes~~ below at least 150 VAC.

17. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 13, further comprising assigning a pulse-duty ratio of 1 to a voltage amplitude ~~amplitudes~~ below at least 165 VAC.

18. (Previously presented) The method according to claim 12, wherein the fixed heating interval includes a substantial number of cycles of an alternating current provided by the voltage supply.

19. (Previously presented) A refrigeration device, comprising:
an integrated defroster heater for defrosting an evaporator;
a voltage supply coupled to said defroster heater;
a recording circuit coupled to said voltage supply for recording a voltage amplitude supplied to said defroster heater and for generating a control signal having a pulse-duty ratio that is based upon the recorded voltage amplitude; and
a circuit breaker activated by said control signal for pulsing a supply current fed to said defroster heater for a fixed heating interval.

20. (Previously presented) The refrigeration device according to claim 19, wherein said pulse-duty ratio is generated as a decreasing step function of said recorded voltage amplitude.

21. (Previously presented) The refrigeration device according to claim 20, wherein said step function has at least two discrete values.

22. (Previously presented) The refrigeration device according to claim 20, wherein said step function has three or more discrete values.

23. (Currently amended) The refrigeration device according to claim 20, wherein a value range of said voltage amplitude is divided into a plurality of intervals, each interval of the plurality of intervals ~~said interval~~ has a fixed pulse-duty ratio assigned, and the ratio from upper to lower limit of said each ~~said~~ interval is between 1.1 and 1.2.

24. (Currently amended) The refrigeration device according to claim 19, wherein said recording circuit assigns a voltage amplitude ~~amplitudes~~ below 150 VAC a pulse-duty ratio of 1.

25. (Currently amended) The refrigeration device according to claim 19, wherein said recording circuit assigns a voltage amplitude ~~amplitudes~~ below 165 VAC a pulse-duty ratio of 1.

26. (Previously presented) The refrigeration device according to claim 19, wherein the fixed heating interval includes a substantial number of cycles of an alternating current provided by the voltage supply.